REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

The claims are modified in the amendment. More specifically, claims 1, 2, 8, 14, and 15 have been amended, claims 3 and 16 have been cancelled and new claims 21 and 22 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-2, 4-15 and 17-22 are present for examination.

No new matter is added by these amendments, which are fully supported by the specification. Further, Applicants reserve the right to pursue any canceled claims in a continuing application without any prejudicial effect. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Interview After Final

On January 28, 2005, the Examiner granted an interview to discuss the claim amendments and the outstanding rejections. The Applicant especially appreciates this opportunity as interviews after final are discretionary. Amendments were suggested in the interview that are largely reflected above with some additional changes discussed in the interview.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Franklin Reg. No. 43,616

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor

San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 303-571-4000 Fax: 415-576-0300

TDF:cmb 60405637 v1